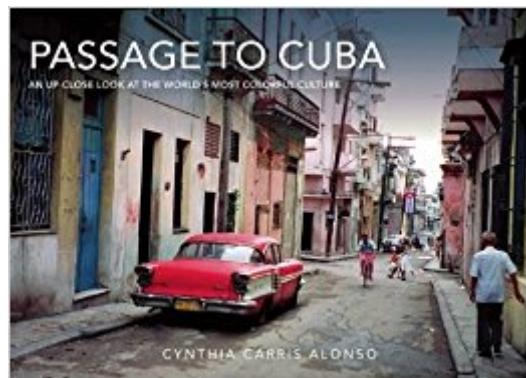


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# Passage To Cuba: An Up-Close Look At The World's Most Colorful Culture



## Synopsis

To stroll the streets of Cuba; to hear the rumbling engines of its 1950s automobiles, the jazz, and the rumba; is to travel back in time, to see jaw-dropping natural beauty and the artists, musicians, and folklore of legends. With access few others have had, Cynthia Carris Alonso has spent twenty years capturing Havana's crumbling, baroque splendor. Her photographs celebrate the dreamy palette of Cuba; salmon pink, sky blue, apricot, aqua green; and reveal the contrast between patina homes; peeling stucco apartments; and the great Capitol Building, Havana Cathedral, and Hotel Nacional. With Passage to Cuba, Alonso opens the doors to an exquisite but rarely seen place. So take a stroll along the Malecón seawall; marvel at the dancers with their colorful, ornate costumes; lose yourself in José Fuster's spellbinding mosaic designs; or simply relax in the warm sun of the countryside, where the calm, aging fishermen spend their days and where Ernest Hemingway wrote *The Old Man and the Sea*. This keepsake volume is a breathtaking tribute to a land with a complex history. It's a lush, vibrant collection of photographs and a road map to use to embark on a remarkable odyssey.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Cynthia Carris Alonso depicts Cuba with an insider's access and a visitor's sense of wonder. She captured rare views of authentic Cuban culture: innovative artisans and vibrant musicians, vintage cars and buildings in faded glory, colorful characters whose relative isolation hasn't dampened their spirits. It's an insightful survey of a land with a rich but enigmatic past and a promising future." • Jack Crager, Senior Contributing Editor, American

Photo&#147;Cynthia Carris Alonsoâ™s poetic images are word pictures chock-full of Caribbean color and light that reveal a passionate people whose magical spirit appears to sing and dance before her very lens.â • &#151;Patricia Pedraza, Senior Producer, CNN en EspaÃ ol&#147;Passage to Cuba takes the viewer on a visual journey to a land that time forgot. From musicians to architecture, Alonsoâ™s images document the complex culture with undiluted sincerity.â • &#151;James K. Colton, Editor at Large, ZUMA Press, and Former Director of Photography, Sports Illustrated, Sipa Press, and Newsweek&#147;Cynthia is able to manifest in photography the same soulfulness that one hears in the music, moves in the dance, feels in the warmth of sunlight on skin, and resides so deeply Cuba.â • &#151;Rachel Faro, Grammy Award&#150;Nominated Record Producer, President, Ashe Records, and Cuban Music Specialist&#147;Cynthia Carris Alonso has a rare photographic eye, one that captures not only Cubaâ™s beauty, but also the soul of its special culture. In Cynthiaâ™s photographs, youâ™ll see why Cuba inspires so much passion and love.â • &#151;Sandra Levinson, Executive Director, the Center for Cuban Studies/Cuban Art Space, New York City

Cynthia Carris Alonso has been a photographer and photo editor for more than twenty years, working for publications such as Newsweek, Vanity Fair, Business Week, and Time.com, and exhibiting her photographs around the United States and in Canada and Latin America. Since the early 1990s, Cynthia has traveled regularly to Cuba, photographing the countryâ™s most famous artists, important news events, and the daily life of the people. In 1992, Cynthia met her future husband in Cuba, and today she lives with him and their daughter in New York City.

Excellent with amazing photos of Cuba. We went there by ship and it was in the ship's library. We definitely wanted it in ours. Very accurate pictures of today's Cuba.

This is a nice picture book of Cuba that I think will appeal to people who can't get there. I've spent time in Cuba and the photos, to me, are more like a photo album of my time there. If the subject matter wasn't Cuba, a place off limits to so many people, I don't think it would have much appeal. The photography is good but nothing special. Its kind of emotion-less. The book does show what Cuba looks like which is a really nice reminder of my month there.

Loved the photography!

## Beautiful pictures

This beautiful book tells the untold story of Cuba in an immersive way. Words cannot convey the power of Caris-Alonso's powerful images. She has taken us into the heart, soul, and spirit of Cuba, frozen in amber and captured by this talented artist.

This was a gift for someone from Cuba and they loved the pictures.

The photos are not great, most of them are poorly cropped, some are slightly out of focus. Some characters are back lighted with faces hardly visible. The use of spot flash would have helped a great deal.

What an amazingly gorgeous book from this talented photographer. It's absolutely stunning and a great inside look to Cuba.

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